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Message Text

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65
ORIGIN IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 DHA-02

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /105 R

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APPROVED BY IO:JABAKER
ARA:GLISTER
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 233639

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN, UY, SHUM

SUBJECT: UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE

REF: MONTEVIDEO 3475

1. SUBJECT COMMITTEE IS PROVIDED FOR IN UN INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS, ADOPTED AND OPENED FOR SIGNATURE, RATIFICATION AND ACCESSION BY UNGA IN DECEMBER 1966. COVENANT, WHICH ENTERED INTO FORCE IN MARCH 1976, CONTAINS A NUMBER OF IMPLEMENTATION ARTICLES BASED UPON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN 18-MEMBER HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE WHICH IS TO BE COMPOSED OF NATIONALS OF STATES PARTIES TO THE COVENANT. COMMITTEE'S COMPETENCE WILL DEPEND EXCLUSIVELY ON THE RELEVANT ARTICLES OF THE COVENANT. THE COMMITTEE WILL REPORT ANNUALLY THROUGH ECOSOC TO THE UNGA. THE COMMITTEE WILL NOT DISPLACE THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION, WHOSE ESTABLISHMENT RESTS UPON
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ARTICLE 68 OF THE UN CHARTER.

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2. ACCORDING TO DEPARTMENT'S LATEST INFORMATION 38 STATES ARE PARTIES TO THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS. THE U.S. IS NOT YET A PARTY. THE USG HAS NEITHER SIGNED THE COVENANT NOR SUBMITTED IT TO THE SENATE FOR ADVICE AND CONSENT TO RATIFICATION.

3. THE FIRST MEETING OF STATES PARTIES TO THE COVENANT TO ELECT THE 18 MEMBERS OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE CONVENED AT UN HEADQUARTERS AT 11:00 A.M. SEPTEMBER 20. IN ADDITION TO FACT THAT REFTEL ARRIVED TOO LATE TO ALLOW TIME FOR MEANINGFUL APPROACHES AS REQUESTED BY GOU, DEPT ALSO OF VIEW THAT SINCE U.S. NOT A PARTY TO THE COVENANT OUR INFLUENCE IN THE ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF NEW HUMAN RIGHTS COMMITTEE COULD HAVE BEEN NIL AND, IN FACT, MIGHT HAVE BEEN COUNTERPRODUCTIVE.

4. WORD JUST RECEIVED FROM USUN THAT URUGUAYAN CANDIDATE NOT REPEAT NOT ELECTED. ROBINSON

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Message Attributes

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